

TS 205230/74  
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Revision of CIA-DOD Command Relationships Agreement (CRA)

1. Reference is the DDO memorandum of 15 April, subject as above (Tab A), which notes that the JCS has prepared a revision of the CRA approved in 1957, and recommends that you advise the JCS you consider a fundamental restudy of the CRA is called for in view of today's realities. The DDO suggested you task the D/DCI/IC to organize a task group of CIA and JCS Joint Staff representatives to develop "a realistic document to regulate CIA-DOD relationships through the full range of future military contingencies."

2. It can be argued, on the one hand, that a CRA of the type now existing (and to which the proposed JCS changes are only cosmetic) is of little significance since it applies only to a wartime situation which is most unlikely to occur. Acceptance of the updated CRA would avoid a possible confrontation with DOD. (Copy of the draft JCS revision of the CRA is at Tab B).

3. On the other hand, the recent Southeast Asia experience (during which the CRA was never invoked) provides a basis for reconsideration of the problem. It would be germane, for instance, to examine how well the military consider the 3 November 1966 "Memorandum of Understanding Between the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Defense for Mutual Support in Contingency Situations Short of General War" proved to be useful in SEA.

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4. I concur in the BDO proposal for establishment of a task group under the D/DCI/IC auspices, and, if you agree, will sound out the JCS Joint Staff on this matter. The concept would be that the task group would look at both the CRA of 1957 and the Memorandum of Understanding of 1966 and develop a single document which would replace them both. I am not aware of any urgency on this matter, and assume that the current JCS proposed update of the CRA, which has been in effect nearly 17 years, is primarily an attempt to tidy up terminology in an old paper.

5. If, in the meantime, the Secretary of Defense forwards the JCS revision officially for comment/concurrence, I suggest the task group counterproposal would be a proper response.

  
D/DCI/IC

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Attachments  
Tab A & Tab B  
as stated

DCI Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

TO 105230/74

X1 DCI/IC/CS [redacted] (4/18/74)

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